UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/515,575	02/29/2000	Daniele V. Levy	002801.P013	9778

7590 12/17/2003	EXAMINER
Andre L Marais	KANOF, PEDRO R

Andre L Marais
Blakley Sokoloff Taylor & Zafman LLP
12400 Wilshire Boulevard
7th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90025

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3628	

DATE MAILED: 12/17/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _02 August 2003_.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1,3-19 and 21-31_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1,3-19 and 21-31_ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application)
since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet.
37 CFR 1.78.

    a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific
reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _16_.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: .

.DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1.   This correspondence is in response to the amendment filed 8/22/2003.

2.   Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 18, 30, and 31 have been amended as requested.

3.   Claims 2, 20, 32, and 33 have been canceled as requested.

4.   Claims 1, 3-19, and 21-31 are rejected.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6.   Claims 1, 3-8, 18, 19, 21, 30, and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Boulton et al. (WO 95/17711).

Claim 1:   Boulton discloses a method of harvesting feedback pertaining to transactions facilitated by a network-based transaction facility, the method including:

identifying a plurality of transactions (Page 5, lines 5-22 and Page 10, line 1-4) associated with a first user (Page 4, lines 2-8), the plurality of transactions comprising completed

transactions in which the first user participated (Page 10, lines 1-4, "sending feedback ...to people who have provide a process, product, service...", i.e. complete a transaction);

communicating user interface information to a client via a communications network, the user interface information including transaction information concerning at least first and second transactions of the plurality of transactions and specifying a feedback interface facilitating user input of feedback information for each of the at least first and second transactions of the plurality of transactions (Page 4, lines 8-9, Boulton does not limit the number of transactions to only one), and

receiving the feedback information, provided by the user through the single feedback interface, for each of at least the first and second transactions, the feedback information being received via the communications network (page 4, lines 9-16, page 5, line 5-13, and page 10, line 5-page 11, line 37).

Claim 3:   Boulton discloses the method of claim 1. Boulton also discloses identifying the completed transactions as transactions in which the first user participated as a customer, buyer or consumer (Page 2, lines 4-10, page 4, lines 23-27, and page 10, lines 2, 3 and 23).

Claim 4:   Boulton discloses the method of claim 1. Boulton also discloses the completed transaction as transactions in which the first user participated as a seller or supplier (Page 10, lines 24-26).

Claim 5:   Boulton discloses the method of claim 2. Boulton also discloses identifying the completed transactions in which the first user participated within a predetermined time period (Page 4, lines 32-34)

Claim 6:   Boulton discloses the method of claim 1. Boulton also discloses wherein the communication of the user interface information comprises communicating a markup language document and wherein the transaction information includes text information describing at least the first and second transactions (Page 4, lines 29-30, first and second transactions resulted from first and second system, wherein the computers are connected in a network).

Claim 7:   Boulton discloses the method of claim 6. Boulton also discloses that the user interface information defines a respective feedback input field associated with each of the first and second transactions via which the feedback information for each of at least the first and second transactions is user-inputted (Page 5, lines 5-10 and page 10, lines 26-37).

Claim 8:   Boulton discloses the method of claim 7. Boulton also discloses that the user interface information defines a type indicator via which type information (meaning needs), indicating a feedback type for the feedback information for each of the at least first and second transactions, is user-inputted (Page 5, lines 10-13).

Claim 18:   Boulton discloses a method of displaying a user interface to harvest feedback pertaining to transactions facilitated by a computerized transaction facility, the method including:

displaying transaction identification information for each of a plurality of transactions within the single user interface displayed on a display device (Page 4, lines 2-8, and page 10, lines 1-4); the plurality of transactions comprising completed transactions in which the first user participated (Page 10, lines 1-4, "sending feedback ...to people who have provide a process, product, service...", i.e. complete a transaction); and

displaying a feedback input for each of the plurality of transactions within the single user

interface as displayed on the display device, wherein each feedback input is displayed so as to

indicate an association with respective transaction identification information (Page 4, lines 8-16)

and where each feedback input comprises an input field to receive at least one of text, numeric

and alpha-numeric information (Page 20, lines 7-32).

Claim 19:   Boulton discloses the method of claim 18 wherein the transaction

identification information includes any one of a group including user information identifying a

party to a transaction, item information identifying a subject of a transaction and date information

indicating a date associated with the transaction period (Page 4, lines 32-34).

Claim 21:   Boulton discloses the method of claim 18 wherein the feedback input

comprises at least one of a plurality of user-selectable feedback options (Page 5, lines 5-10 and

page 10, lines 26-37).

Claim 30:   Boulton discloses a method of harvesting comments pertaining to items

of a network based transaction facility, the method including:

identifying a plurality of items (Page 12, lines 5-25, page 15, lines 12-27 and page 31, line

28-page 32, line 12), the plurality of items being items transacted by a user utilizing the network-

based transaction facility (Page 10, lines 1-4, "sending feedback ...to people who have provide a

process, product, service...", i.e. complete a transaction);

communicating user interface information to a client via a communications network, the

user interface information including item information concerning at least first and second items of

the plurality of items and specifying a single input interface facilitating user input of comments

pertaining to each of the at least the first and second items of the plurality of items, wherein the

user interface information is displayed on a single user interface (Page 4, lines 8-9, page 12, line

26-page 13, line 28, page 20, lines line 7-page 21, line 23, and page 30, lines 9-34); and

receiving the comments, provided by the user through the single input interface, for each

of the at last first and second items, the comments being received via the communications

network (Page 4, lines 9-16, page 15, line 28-page 16, line 26, and page 33, lines 8-24).

Claim 31:   Boulton discloses a method of displaying a user interface to harvest

comments pertaining to items of a computerized transaction facility, the method including:

displaying item identification information for each of a plurality of items within the single

user interface displayed on a display device (Page 43, line 5-32), the plurality of items being

items transacted by a user utilizing the network-based transaction facility (Page 10, lines 1-4,

"sending feedback ...to people who have provide a process, product, service...", i.e. complete a

transaction); and

displaying a comment input for each of the plurality of items within the single user

interface as displayed on the display device wherein each comment input by a user is displayed

so as to indicate an association with respective transaction identification information (Page 56,

lines 10-37), and where each comment input by the user comprises an input field to receive at

least one of text, numeric and alpha-numeric information (Page 20, lines 7-32).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness

rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in
> section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are

such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

8.   Claims 10-17, 23, and 25-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Boulton et al. (WO 95/17711)

Claim 10:   Boulton discloses the method of claim 8.   However, Boulton does not explicitly disclose wherein the type indicator comprises any one of a group including a collection of check boxes and a collection of radio buttons. Official notice is taken that the use of an indicator that comprises any one of a group including a collection of check boxes and a collection of radio buttons is well know within the art.   Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to include such step.   One would have been motivated to use an indicator that comprises any one of a group including a collection of check boxes and a collection of radio buttons in order to facilitate the use of the method.

Claim 11:   Boulton discloses the method of claim 6. However, Boulton does not explicitly disclose wherein the user interface information defines a respective skip indicator for each of the at least first and second transactions, each skip indicator being user-selectable to indicate whether or not feedback is being provided via the feedback interface for an associated transaction. Official notice is taken that the use of an user interface information that defines a respective skip indicator for each of the at least first and second transactions, and wherein each skip indicator being user-selectable to indicate whether or not feedback is being provided via the feedback interface for an associated transaction. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to include such step.   One would have been motivated to use an

interface information that defines a respective skip indicator for each of the at least first and second transactions in order to increase the control of the method.

Claim 12:   Boulton discloses the method of claim 11.   However, Boulton does not explicitly disclose wherein each of the respective skip indicators comprises any one of a group comprising a check box and a radio button.   Official notice is taken that the use of a skip indicator that comprises any one of a group comprising a check box and a radio button is well know within the art.   Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to include such step.   One would have been motivated to use an a skip indicator that comprises any one of a group comprising a check box and a radio button in order to facilitate the use of the method.

Claim 13:   Boulton discloses the method of claim 1.   However, Boulton does not explicitly disclose wherein the user interface information defines a filter input field via which a filter criteria is user-inputted, the filter criteria being applied to the plurality of transactions to define a subset thereof for display via the feedback interface.   Official notice is taken that the use of an interface information that defines a filter input field via which a filter criteria is user-inputted, and wherein the filter criteria being applied to the plurality of transactions to define a subset thereof for display via the feedback interface is well know within the art.   Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to include such step.   One would have been motivated to use an interface information that defines a filter input field via which a filter criteria is user-inputted in order to facilitate the use of the method.

Claim 14:   Boulton discloses the method of claim 13.   However, Boulton does not explicitly disclose wherein the filter criteria comprises a user identifier identifying a second user associated with at least one transaction of the plurality of transactions.   Official notice is taken

that the use of a filter criteria that comprises a user identifier identifying a second user associated

with at least one transaction of the plurality of transactions is well know within the art. Therefore,

it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to include such step. One

would have been motivated to use a filter criteria that comprises a user identifier identifying a

second user in order to increase the capability of the method.

Claim 15: Boulton discloses the method of claim 13. However, Boulton does not

explicitly disclose wherein the filter criteria comprises a transaction identifier identifying at least

one of the plurality of transactions. Official notice is taken that the use of a filter criteria that

comprises a transaction identifier identifying at least one of the plurality of transactions is well

know within the art. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art

to include such step. One would have been motivated to use a filter criteria that comprises a

transaction identifier identifying one of the plurality of transactions in order to increase the

facilities of the method.

Claim 16:   Boulton discloses the method of claim 1. However, Boulton does not

explicitly disclose including populating a feedback data structure with the feedback information

for each of the at least first and second transactions. Official notice is taken that the use of a

feedback data structure with the feedback information for each of the at least first and second

transactions is well know within the art. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having

ordinary skill in the art to include such step. One would have been motivated to use a feedback

data structure with the feedback information for each of the at least first and second transactions

in order to increase the security of the method.

Claim 17:   Boulton discloses the method of claim 1.   However, Boulton does not

explicitly disclose when the transaction information includes one of a group including user, item,

description and date information.   Official notice is taken that the use of a transaction

information that includes one of a group including user, item, description and date information is

well know within the art.   Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in

the art to include such step.   One would have been motivated to use transaction information that

includes one of a group including user, item, description and date information in order to increase

the security of the method.

Claims 22 and 23:   Boulton discloses the method of claim 21.   However, Boulton does

not explicitly disclose wherein the plurality of user-selectable feedback options are presented in

the form of a drop-down menu nor wherein the plurality of user-selectable feedback options are

type options that indicate a feedback type associated to feedback information.   Official notice is

taken that the use of selectable feedback options presented in the form of a drop-down menu

and that the user-selectable feedback options are type options that indicate a feedback type

associated to feedback information are well know within the art.   Therefore, it would have been

obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to include such as steps.   One would have been

motivated to use these steps in order to increase the capabilities of the method.

Claim 25:   Boulton discloses the method of claim 21.   However, Boulton does not

explicitly disclose wherein the plurality of user-selectable feedback options are presented as

being user-selectable by any of a group including a plurality of check boxes and a plurality of

radio buttons.   Official notice is taken that the use of selectable feedback options presented to

an user as being user-selectable by any of a group including a plurality of check boxes and a

plurality of radio buttons is well know within the art.   Therefore, it would have been obvious to

one having ordinary skill in the art to include such step.   One would have been motivated to use

that step in order to facilitate the use of the method.

Claim 26:   Boulton discloses the method of claim 18.   However, Boulton does not explicitly disclose including displaying a skip input for each of the plurality of transactions within the user interface, each skip input being user-selectable to indicate whether or not feedback is being provided for associated transaction identification information. Official notice is taken that the display of a skip input for each of the plurality of transactions within the user interface, each skip input being user-selectable to indicate whether or not feedback is being provided for associated transaction identification information is well know within the art. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to include such step. One would have been motivated to use that step in order to facilitate the use of the method.

Claim 27:   Boulton discloses the method of claim 18.   However, Boulton does not explicitly disclose the user interface comprises a markup language document displayed within a browser. Official notice is taken that the use of interface that comprises a markup language document displayed within a browser is well know within the art. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to include such step. One would have been motivated to use that step in order to increase the security of the method.

Claim 28:   Boulton discloses the method of claim 18.   However, Boulton does not explicitly disclose wherein the association is indicated by display of a respective feedback input proximate the specific transaction identification information. Official notice is taken that the use of an association which is indicated by display of a respective feedback input proximate the specific transaction identification information is well know within the art. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to include such step. One would have been motivated to use that step in order to increase the facilities of the method.

Claim 29:   Boulton discloses the method of claim 18.   However, Boulton does not explicitly disclose wherein the association is indicated by display of a graphical indication that indicates the association between the respective feedback input and the specific transaction identifier information. Official notice is taken that the use of an association which is indicated by display of a graphical indication that indicates the association between the respective feedback input and the specific transaction identifier information is well know within the art.   Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to include such step.   One would have been motivated to use that step in order to increase the facilities of the method.

9.   Claims 9 and 24 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Boulton et al. (WO 95/17711) in view of Havens (U.S. Patent No. 5,924,072).

Claim 9:   Boulton discloses the method of claims 8 and 23.   However, Boulton does not explicitly disclose wherein the type information indicates the feedback type as being any one of a group including positive feedback, negative feedback and neutral feedback. Havens discloses a system and a method in which the type information indicates the feedback type as being any one of a group including positive feedback, negative feedback and neutral feedback (Col. 14, lines 47-65). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skills in the art at the time the invention was made to use information that indicates the feedback type as being any one of a group including positive feedback, negative feedback and neutral feedback in the Boulton's invention. One would have been motivated to including this step in order to facilitate a fast communication.

Response to Arguments

10.   Applicant's arguments filed on 8/2/03 have been fully considered but they are not

persuasive.

Applicant's representative states: "Boulton... does not disclose identifying a plurality of

completed transactions in which the first user participated" (Page 9, lines 15-18).

Examiner notes that Boulton discloses: "...sending feedback...to people who have provide

a process, product, service..." (Page 10, lines 1-4), i.e. complete a transaction. Thus, Boulton

discloses identifying a plurality of completed transactions in which the first user participated.

Conclusion

11.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's

disclosure.   THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time

policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS

from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the

mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the

THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the

date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be

calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory

period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.
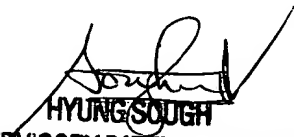
12.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner

should be directed to Exr. Pedro R. Kanof whose telephone number is (703) 308-9552.

        If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Mr. Hyung Sough, can be reached on (703) 308-0505. The fax phone number for this

Group is (703) 305-7687.

        Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding

should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.

PRK-12/11/03

<div style="text-align:right;">

HYUNG SOUGH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600

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